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PA or FOI Exc.

October 1, 1963 - Tuesday

Another sunny day, temperature range 69-48,

Morning at George White's office. Lunched with Jim Bruce at The Brook. His foot is still in a brace; he hopes to discard the support in a fortnight. He was given a clean bill of health by his doctor this morning as being organically sound in every particular--not bad as he approaches 71.

We talked of family and other matters, including the giant Continental Insurance Company, of which he is a Director, and in which the children have some stock. Its losses on casualty underwriting are huge, and likely to continue so. I asked why they did not go out of the insurance business, and become an investment trust with $1,700,000,000 of assets. I posed the same question to the President, Victor Herd, who was also lunching at The Brook. This elicited the reply that it would take hours to explain why they continued as they are doing. I gave up, and devoted myself to consuming Japanese turtle fins.

Dined tonight at 2 East 67th Street with Ailsa. She has just returned from staying with Audrey, Stephen and the grandchildren, in Virgina. She was gay and philosophical.

October 2, 1963 - Wednesday

Spent the morning answering mail and telephone calls. Lunched at The Century with Larry Lowman and Whitney Shepardson.

This is the opening day of the World's Series baseball games. Consequently, some hundreds of thousadds of citizens here are conversationally intent on little else, and those who could not get to the Stadium glued themselves to television or radio sets. The Dodgers defeated the Yankees 5 to 2 in 74° sunny weather.

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Went to see Audrey's family this afternoon. All were well--the three grandchildren are perfectly handsome.

Dined at The Racquet Club. Afterwards read late in Plato's Republic.

October 3, 1963 - Thursday

Inspected the apartment Ailsa has bought at 960 Fifth Avenue. I wish she had bought a house instead.

Lunched with Teddy White at The Century. Meeting him is like making contact with a live electric wire without any disastrous results. He has been conducting an investigation, preparatory to writing a book on the 1964 elections, into the domestic issues most likely to affect its outcome. Obviously, the question of civil rights is the most important. His account was of gloomy portent. When automation or unemployment causes a lay-off of manual workers, the negroes are the first to get the sack. Several large cities, especially Chicago, Detroit, and New York, are unable to absorb the dispossessed, or those just entering the labor force, so one must contemplate a discontented racial mass with little hope in the near future.

Teddy and his wife, Nancy of the New York Times, are exceptional people.

After lunch, I saw the last of the 9th inning of the World Series on television. I arrived at the ultimate moment when the Dodgers clinched their victory as a result of the final Yankee batter striking out.

Jean Lambert came to see me tonight at The Brook. He believes the real estate market in New York City to be shaky, as a result of reckless overbuilding in this high priced field. I recommended Livie Merchant as a possible member of his Board.

Buck Crawford dined with me. We went over the family accounts.

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October 4, 1963 - Friday

Back to George White's office to dictate, and to try in vain to unscrew the inscrutable accounts of Austral Oil and the Charlie Walbert syndicate.

To the Herald-Tribune to lunch with Jock Whitney and his [redacted] top staff men. A sophisticated political talk, intermixed with a number of picturesque and salty stories. I recognized a Chateau Petrus.

It is cooler today with a predicted maximum temperature of 65°. Fantastic buildings are in process of erection, even on formerly mean avenues. It is certainly the most stirring city in the world, as regards enterprise and vitality, but a dog-eat-dog lot of denizens on the whole.

Trekked to a bookstore to lay in mental fodder for tomorrow's flight. Bought a couple of frivolities for amusement, after I have digested Lord Radcliffe's The Problem of Power (for the second or third time), and Allen Dulles' gift-book The Craft of Intelligence.

Dined Maya de Monteaudoin tonight at La Caravelle, a restaurant run by one of Soulé's acolytes, which, as regards price, emulates Le Pavillon.

October 5, 1963 - Saturday

Considerable activity. Aroused at 7:30. Then, a flurry of packing before setting off for Idlewild at 8:30. Damn Ian Fleming. I had reserved Thunderball for the plane, but started on the first chapter in bed, and went on to finish it at 3 a.m.

A calm flight, but the cursed mistake of sitting next to a garrulous, though amiable, old geezer of about eighty who jabbered unduly.

Al met me at the airport. Alec Home arrived with Elizabeth almost simultaneously by BOAC from New York, so I had a chance to talk to him, as well as Sammy Hood, in the VIP lounge.

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Arrived home for a happy reunion with E, Milou and Mosie, Nicky being asleep.

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was while Chairman of the General Electric Company. Nevertheless, he observed that there was now nothing like the same tension in his life, and he has made arrangements to spend three months a year at his place in Antigua. He is a delightful man, whose career in government would probably have been a remarkable one if Truman, while Senator, had not formed a strong prejudice against him and the General Electric Company.

We had a dinner tonight for the Auchinclosses, Harold Caccia, Al Wells, Isa Zamoyski, Ali Forbes, Kisty Hesketh, Nancy Lancaster, Sidney and Flora Gruson were the guests. I was entertained by watching the skill with which Harold successively took on the Grusons. He is adroit diplomat. I had a talk with him about current problems.

October 8, 1963 - Tuesday

I did not know he was in town, but Ricardo Sicre came to see me this morning. He has just finished his plans for financing a 12 million dollar industrial bank in Spain. His career has been remarkable. One of the four boys has just entered Princeton. He invited me to go shooting in Spain, but I see no prospect of doing so.

Judge Pearson, of Wilmington Trust Company, came to see me. I imposed upon his good nature by talking with him about my will, which he drew some years ago. He has had grievous ill luck during the past year. His wife died, leaving him with two young daughters who he expected would be cared for in large part by their aunts. Both aunts have now died, and he was crippled for a time by a bad heart attack, from which he has almost entirely recovered.

Nelson Slater came in. He and Lulu are spending three days in London, before sailing from Southampton for South Africa. Knowing his love of buying automobiles, I asked whether he had picked up any recently. His answer was that he had bought

a Mercedes racing car the day before yesterday, which will sit in Switzerland while he is away.

I went down to White's, to sign at the instance of Marcus Chichester, the book for the candidacy as an American member of Marshall Haseltine, the son of the famous sculptor, now deceased, Herbert Haseltine. The rigamarole attendant upon the production of the book smacked of old times. It was finally held for me by two club servants, who wished to make sure I would perform according to rote.

I went around the corner to buy a sword stick at Wilkinsons', on Pall Mall. This sword is concealed in a Malacca cane, and is a beautiful example of craftsmanship. A little more than 40 years ago, Macgill James and I bought similar swords at Wilkinsons', before going over to Ireland during the Sinn Fein Rebellion.

I dined tonight with Mary and Elim O'Shaughnessy.

October 9, 1963 - Wednesday

Howard Furnas came to see me this morning. He was in from Washington, on his way to Paris in connection with the MLF meeting due to start the end of this week. He seemed pleased with the British decision to take part in the conversations, even though there is no commitment expressed or implied do join the MLF if and when it is set up.

I went to see Miss MacInnes to have a massage before luncheon at the American Club.

Tommy Nichols, Chairman of Olin Mathieson, came to see me this afternoon. He questioned me again as to whether I would be interested in running for the Senate from Maryland and when I returned home whether I would like to go on the board of some of the companies in which he is interested. I gave him a

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definite no to the first inquiry, and said I would consider the second after my return, which I did not expect to take place before early 1955.

Jane and John Gunther spent an hour and a half with me. This is the first time they have been to England for some years. He is doing articles for Look Magazine, in regard to which he is accumulating information through reading and interviewing British political leaders.

In the late afternoon we had news of Macmillan's illness. He has prostate gland trouble, and will have to submit to an operation. Consequently, the politicians, as well as the population generally, are giving reign to speculation whether there will be an announcement at the Blackpool Conference of his decision on continuing or not in office. He was due to address the Conference on Saturday of this week.

Tonight, the Auchinclosses, who are leaving us tomorrow, the Slaters, and Paul Mellon dined with me, E being in Paris.

October 10, 1963 - Thursday

I went down this morning to the Foreign Office with Ray Courtney to sign the Certificates of Deposit for the Test Ban Treaty. Lord Home, the Russian Charge d'Affaires, named Romanoff, and myself, were photographed and televised at a table in the diplomatic reception room. We then signed the necessary documents, at the end of which each of us made comments breathing peace and extolling the significance of the treaty. Afterwards, all the functionaries adjourned to Home's office, where he gave us champagne. I had a short talk with him about the PM, whom he visited last night at the hospital. Alec left this morning for Blackpool, where presumably he will announce Macmillan's decision to the faithful.

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one hears little else at the moment except talk concerning who may replace Macmillan.

Bert Jolis called on me this evening. His diamond business in the former Belgian and French Congo, as well as on the Ivory Coast, has been so complicated by political changes in the last few years in these areas that he must have lived in an almost continuous state of high tension, and often of apprehension, about the future of his properties. He is a remarkable fellow.

We went tonight as guests of the Ian Flemings to the preview of the film "From Russia with Love", titled after his book. It was wonderful entertainment, with enough murders to satisfy even as bloodthirsty a boy as Nicky. I thought it excellently done, despite the improbability of many of the incidents. As usual, in the case of anything connected with the now famous James Bond, the theater was crowded with celebrities, and there were crowds of people on the street waiting to catch a glimpse of them as they arrived and departed.

We went afterwards to supper at the Flemings on Victoria Square, where they entertained 50 or more guests, including some members of the cast. Much of the film was taken in Istanbul, whence on a recent visit Ian brought back mounds of caviar. There was enough of it to satisfy everybody. We next had kedgeree, with a liberal assortment of liquors and wines. The party was still going strong when we left to go to bed at 2:30. I know of no hosts more accomplished and welcoming than Anne and Ian Fleming.

During the course of the day, Home read a letter from the Prime Minister at the Blackpool meeting, stating he did not intend to continue in office, and would turn over the seals to the Queen at a later date.

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October 11, 1963 - Friday

The operation on Macmillan was successful, so he is expected after a long convalescence to regain full health. I shall write him a personal letter tonight.

We had a staff meeting this morning, at which I explained what I did in Washington.

This afternoon, Governor Arnall, formerly Governor of Georgia, and President of the Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers, as well as an attorney for Walt Disney, came to see me with one of his associates. I met him some years ago in Paris, and find he had lost none of his agreeability. He is engaged in a copyright negotiation with the British Government.

Thomas Guest, with whom I have had correspondence recently about his friend Cyril Fentiman, came to see me. He previously sent me some of Mr. Fentiman's reflections on British and American foreign policy that I found interesting. When Guest left me, he said he was on his way to the hospital to have a talk with Macmillan.

Al Harding, our Chinese scholar, who has been for a long time in the Political Section and is being moved to Warsaw where he will continue to interpret conversations between Ambassador Cabot and the Peiping special representative, told me good-bye this afternoon.

Joe Fowler also said good-bye. This unusually competent man has been looking into the possibilities of assisting the US Balance of Payments by encouraging the sale of US corporate securities overseas and by increasing the availability of foreign financing for US firms operating abroad.

I keep losing my letter of August 16, 1958, to Whitney Shepardson, about my experiences during the Normandy invasion with Bill Donovan. I have at last recovered what I think is my only copy from Cornelius Ryan, and this time may preserve it by putting it in the Diary.